

**SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENTS**

Claim 1 has been amended to contain the limitation found at paragraph [0013].

It is believed there is no possibility of new matter or new issues.

Entry is respectfully requested.

### REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-5, 12-24, 26-28, 31-32, and 36-38, 40-42 are in the case.

Applicant's would first like to thank Examiner Bullock for the courteous and helpful discussion on January 9, particularly considering the short notice provided by Applicant's representative.

During the discussion, it was pointed out that both references used in the rejection - namely Blain et al., U.S. 5,026,933, and EP 402 051 - explicitly and clearly state that the oligomerization processes described therein apply to C3 and/or C4 olefins. Conspicuously, there is complete absence of any suggestion that other olefins may be useful as feedstocks. Notwithstanding that at least Blain et al. states that "typical reactive feedstocks consist essentially of C3-C6 mono-olefins" in the Background section, the fact of the matter is that neither reference incorporates "typical reactive feedstocks" at any point into the inventions discussed therein.

As was proposed during the aforementioned discussion, the principal claim 1 has now also been amended to set forth the limitation that the proportion of dimer product that is linear or has single methyl branching is from 62 to 83%. This requires that at least 17% of the branching be ethyl or higher branching. Both Blain et al. and EP '051 expressly limit their products to methyl only branching. See Blain et al. at col. 5, lines 39-40; EP '051 at page 2, lines 46-47.

The present claims are thus limited expressly by a surprising and unexpected result.

Accordingly, the references taken together cannot fairly suggest the present invention and it is respectfully requested that the rejection under 35 USC §103 be withdrawn.

Applicants believe the present application is in condition for allowance and early indication of such is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

January 10, 2008

Date

/Andrew B. Griffis/

Attorney for Applicants

Registration No. 36,336

Post Office Address (to which correspondence is to be sent):

ExxonMobil Chemical Co.

Law Technology

P.O. Box 2149

Baytown, Texas 77522-2149

Phone: 281-834-1886

Fax: 281-834-2495